

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/711,000

Examiner

Jonathan R. Plante

Applicant(s)

TSAI ET AL.

Art Unit

2182

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4 April 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-9.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is in response to the applicant's communication filed 4 April 2007 in response to PTO Office Action mailed 4 January 2004. The Applicant's remarks and amendments to the claims and/or the specification were considered with the results that follow.

**Drawing Amendments**

2. Acknowledgement of receiving replacement drawings, which were received by the Office on 4 April 2007. These drawings are Figure 1 and Figure 3.

The objections to the drawings have been withdrawn due to amendment filed on 4 April 2007.

**Specification Amendments**

3. Acknowledgement of receiving amendments to the specification, which were received by the Office on 4 April 2007. The amendments to the specification included paragraphs 0005, 0006, 0009, 0012, 0025, 0028, 0030, 0031, and 0036. The specification has been updated according to reflect amendments.

The objections to the specification have been withdrawn due to amendment filed on 4 April 2007.

**Claim Amendments**

4. Acknowledgment of receiving amendments to the claims, which were received by the Office on 4 April 2007. Claims 1, 3-9 have been presented for examination in this application. Claims 1, 3, 8, and 9 have been amended, Claims 4-7 are original, and Claims 2 and 10-20 have been cancelled.

The objections to the claims have been withdrawn due to amendment filed on 4 April 2007.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

5. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given via a telephone voicemail message left by Mr. Winston Hsu, Patent Agent Number 41,526 on May 25, 2007 at 5:24 AM, in response to telephone interview conducted on May 24, 2007 at 12:10 PM, in response to Examiners voicemail message left on May 23, 2007 at 2:25 PM. Examiner request permission to change Claims 1 and 8 by replacing "coupled" or "coupling" with "directly coupled" or "directly coupling".

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The Application has been amended as follows:

- a. (Claim 1, Line 7): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- b. (Claim 1, Line 8): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- c. (Claim 1, Line 9): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- d. (Claim 1, Line 9): Replace "for coupling" with --for directly coupling--;
- e. (Claim 1, Line 11): Replace "for coupling" with --for directly coupling--;
- f. (Claim 1, Line 11): Replace "and coupled" with --and directly coupled--;
- g. (Claim 1, Line 12): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- h. (Claim 1, Line 14): Replace "output coupled" with --output directly coupled--;
- i. (Claim 1, Line 15): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
  
- j. (Claim 8, Line 4): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- k. (Claim 8, Line 6): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- l. (Claim 8, Line 7): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- m. (Claim 8, Line 7): Replace "for coupling" with --for directly coupling--;
- n. (Claim 8, Line 8): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- o. (Claim 8, Line 11): Replace "for coupling" with --for directly coupling--;
- p. (Claim 8, Line 11): Replace "and coupled" with --and directly coupled--;
- q. (Claim 8, Line 12): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- r. (Claim 8, Line 16): Replace "output coupled" with --output directly coupled--;
- s. (Claim 8, Line 17): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;
- t. (Claim 8, Line 18): Replace "input coupled" with --input directly coupled--;

**Allowable Subject Matter**

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Independent Claims 1 and 8, comprising of a switch device comprising of a first switch first input directly coupled to a real input device, first switch output directly coupled to the first input of a second switch, the second switch second input directly coupled to the emulation input device, second switch output directly coupled to a computer, a third switch first input directly coupled to the computer and control input directly coupled to real input device, third switch output directly coupled to a forth switch, a forth switch output directly coupled to real input device and control input of first switch, forth switch and second switch control input are directly coupled to a control signal, and above in conjunction with additional claim elements.

Note the term directly coupled means there in no additional switch and/or logic circuits between said switches. The switches are directly connected to each other and there are no intermediate switches and/or logic circuits in which said connection is routed through.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan R. Plante whose telephone number is (571) 272-9780. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -- Thursday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on (571) 272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

May 25, 2007  
JRP

  
KIM HUYNH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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ART UNIT 2182  
